



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Raised Bill No. 5244

LCO No. 1041

01041_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY
CERTIFICATES BY CERTAIN STAFF OF THE EMERGENCY MOBILE
PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17a-78 of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

3 (NEW) (f) Any clinical social worker licensed under chapter 383b,
4 advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378 or
5 professional counselor licensed under chapter 383c who has (1)
6 received a minimum of eight hours of specialized training in the
7 conduct of direct evaluations as a member of any Emergency Mobile
8 Psychiatric Services (EMPS) team under contract with the Department
9 of Children and Families, and (2) reasonable cause to believe, based on
10 a direct evaluation of a child, that such child (A) has psychiatric
11 disabilities, (B) is dangerous to himself or others or gravely disabled,
12 and (C) is in need of immediate care and treatment may issue an
13 emergency certificate that requires the hospitalization of such child for
14 a psychiatric and medical evaluation. Such child shall be evaluated not
15 later than twenty-four hours after the issuance of the emergency

16 certificate and shall not be held for more than seventy-two hours
17 pursuant to such certificate unless committed pursuant to section 17a-
18 77. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall collect and
19 maintain statistical and demographic information pertaining to
20 emergency certificates issued under this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	17a-78
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Statement of Purpose:

To permit designated professionals operating within the Department of Children and Families' Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services (EMPS) program the authority to issue emergency certificates directing that a child with psychiatric disabilities be hospitalized for an evaluation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]